

Washington D.C. – Today, Congressman Harry Teague announced funding for two high schools in Valencia County which will give students access to more personal instruction and career guidance programs. The grant has been awarded to Los Lunas High School and Valencia High School by the Smaller Learning Communities Program, which encourages large high schools to develop strategies to implement smaller learning environments.

“An essential part of a quality education for our children is providing the individual attention they need to learn and develop lifelong skills and prepare to enter the workforce. One of the best ways to achieve this in large schools is the ability to put programs in place that maintain a focus on individual students and keep class sizes smaller, giving students more time with teachers and the assistance they require,” Harry Teague said. “This funding will ensure that the students at Los Lunas High School and Valencia High School continue to have access to the curriculum and career guidance that maximizes each student's potential.”

The \$1,314,492 will be implemented over five years to expand their 9th grade Academy programs, where students are grouped with common teaching teams, a counselor and an administrator. A career-focused curriculum will be instituted based on student interest as well as a tiered approach to interventions for students who enter high school below grade level. Additionally, educators, counselors and administrators will be provided with access to classroom-based coaching programs and opportunities to become active members in professional learning communities.

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